

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/661,862

Examiner

Hai L. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

NGUYEN ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 01/18/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-46.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 11 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 01/18/2005
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

TIMOTHY P. CALLAHAN  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. The amendment received on 01/18/2005 has been reviewed and considered with the following results:

As to the objections to claims 3 and 39, Applicant's amendments have overcome the objections, as such; the objections have been withdrawn.

As to the rejections to claims 26-46 under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, Applicant's amendments and clarification have overcome the rejections, as such; the rejections have been withdrawn.

As to the prior art rejections to the claims, Applicant's amendment has overcome the prior art rejections mailed on 11/18/2004, as such; the prior art rejections have been withdrawn. The case is found to be in allowance condition.

## **REASON FOR ALLOWANCE**

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to disclose or fairly suggest a circuit (300 in instant Fig. 3) for generating an output signal (Output Signal of 302) with a predetermined duty cycle, and a method of use thereof, as recited in claims 1 and 18, having a very specific limitation as the register (312) coupled to the comparator, to store a value indicative of a difference between the common mode voltage (Output Signal of 304) of the output signal and the reference voltage (Output Signal of 308); adjustment combining logic (316, 318, 320, 322) to combine a second value (336) and the value stored in the register to produce an adjusted value; and a pre-driver

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(324) to receive a signal corresponding to the adjusted value (330, and Output Signals of 332, 334) and to send a data signal corresponding to the output signal to the driver, wherein the value stored in the register causes the common mode voltage of the output signal to change so as to decrease the difference between the common mode voltage of the output signal and the reference voltage; and being configured in combination with the rest of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

The prior art of record fails to disclose or fairly suggest a system (300 in instant Fig. 3), and a method of use thereof, as recited in claims 26 and 39, comprising a first circuit (302-310) to receive signals of a specific signaling type (RSL, SSTL, YL), the specific signaling type having a predetermined duty cycle; and specifically the limitation directed to a second circuit (312-334) coupled to the first circuit, the second circuit comprising a pre-driver (324); a plurality of registers (312) coupled to the pre-driver, each register to store a value suitable for configuring the pre-driver to generate an output signal with a duty cycle of one of a plurality of signaling types wherein the specific signaling type is one of the plurality of signaling types; and a selector (313) coupled to the plurality of registers, to select one of the plurality of registers so as to output the value stored in the selected register; wherein the pre-driver is configured in accordance with the output value from the selected register so as to generate an output signal with the predetermined duty cycle and send the output signal to the first circuit.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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*Conclusion*

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hai L. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-1747 and Right Fax number is 571-273-1747. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy Callahan can be reached on 571-272-1740. The official fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-1562.

5. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

HLN 

March 5, 2005